

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

DATE DISTR. 20 May 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Production of Electronic Equipment at
Leipzig and Koelleda

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF
INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The state-owned RFT plant at Leipzig and Koelleda produce Echolot instruments (depth sounding equipment) for the Soviet Navy. Approximately 20 per day are dispatched to Rostock. Each unit consists of 3 items: a transmitter, a receiver, and a so-called Kommando Geraete, which contains knobs and dials which activate and measure the sound impulses used to measure the actual depth of the ocean under the vessel carrying the equipment. Measurement is made by electronically gauging the time needed for a sound impulse generated on board the vessel to reach the bottom of the ocean and return to the receiver, which is also mounted in the hull of the vessel operating the equipment. Source believes that this equipment is active only for depth to 25 to 50 meters. The Kommando Geraete contain a direct reading scale which is calibrated in meters.
2. The factory at Koelleda is located on a former airfield and employs 800 to 900 workers. The sheds in which the factory is located were recently enlarged; they were formerly used by the German Army as a weapons dump. Besides production of Echolot equipment, the factory engages in the manufacture of amplifiers on a mass production basis. Output of these amplifiers is 20 and 60 watt. Larger amplifiers for special orders are occasionally produced at the RFT plant at Leipzig and Koelleda.
3. Component parts for the Echolot and amplifier equipment is largely obtained from such places as RFT Erfurt and RFT Leipzig. All tubes used in this equipment, together with all fixed and variable condensers, are obtained from RFT Erfurt and the RFT plant in Leipzig, Eichstadtstr. 9-11. This plant produces loud speakers of all descriptions (from miniature to very large ones). A special loud speaker is produced for the Soviet Signal Corps. This loud speaker is designed to respond to very high frequencies only. One hundred such speakers are produced each day. Source does not know where they are shipped to. An order received in mid-January 1953 for 2,200 25-watt loud speakers is destined for export to China. Approximately 60 of these special loud speakers for China are produced daily.
4. RFT Developmental Laboratory, Waxmuthstrasse, is set up as a developmental laboratory for the RFT complex. It does developmental work for all other RFT installations, and testing of component parts produced by other RFT plants is carried out at the laboratory. One part of the shop is restricted to all persons not employed in construction of radar. The laboratory is presently engaged in the construction of mobile radar equipment. A radar display approximately 4 meters high, mounted on a 4 wheel trailer has been observed. While no

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details pertaining to the electronic structure are known, the radar equipment is described as completely flexible and adjustable in all directions, with a circular chronicle display constructed of wire netting inside a circular frame. Square tubing leads to the center of the cone. The relationship between the cone and its pedestal could not be ascertained.

5. The laboratory is also working on a mobile transceiver, which is to be carried on the back of a soldier. This equipment is of the ultra-short wave type and uses miniature tubes. So far the equipment has not met with the approval of the Soviet authorities because it is too heavy, and efforts are currently being made to lighten the equipment to make it acceptable to the Soviet Signal Corps.

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